

RESURRECTION OF VIOLA LANAIENSIS BECKER  
HAWAIIAN PLANT STUDIES 90

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The recent collection of the Lanai violet in flower by S. L. Montgomery had caused the writer to reexamine it and compare it with Viola Helena Forbes & Lydgate, the similar plant on Kauai. Rock (1911: 6) described the Lanai plant as V. Helena, var. lanaiensis, and Skottsberg accepted this classification. Independently, and using a different type specimen, Becker (1916: 214) classed the latter as V. lanaiensis Becker. Skottsberg studied two collections of V. Helena and ten of var. lanaiensis, many of these specimens being meager.

The writer has now investigated these two plants, and notes the differences between them, which he considers sufficient to recognize each as a species.

Viola Helena Forbes & Lydgate, Bishop Mus., Occas. Papers 4(3): 218, and figure, 1909; Skottsberg, Göteborg Bot. Trädg., Meddel. 13: 506-510, 1940; St. John, Pacif. Trop. Bot. Gard. 1: 238, 1973.

This has the stipules 11-13 mm long, the base narrowly lanceolate, the tip acuminate, and it is remotely short glandular ciliate; well formed blades linear lanceolate, the secondary veins almost straight, running directly to the teeth; upper petal 9 mm long; lateral and lower petals bearded; capsule valves 9-10 mm long.

Holotype: Hawaiian Islands, Kauai Island, Wahiawa Mountains, May 1908, J. M. Lydgate (BISH).

Specimens Examined, all from Kauai: Wahiawa Mts., along bank of stream, Aug. 1909, C. N. Forbes 214.K.

Viola lanaiensis Becker, Bot. Centralbl., Beih. 34: 214, 1916.

V. Helena Forbes & Lydgate, var. lanaiensis Rock, College of Hawaii, Publ., Bull. 1: 6-7, 1911; Skottsberg, Göteborg Bot. Trädg., Meddel. 13: 508-510, figs. 38-39, 1940; St. John, Pacif. Trop. Bot. Gard., Mem. 1: 238, 1973.

This is distinguished by having the stipules 8-10 mm long, the base broadly deltoid, the tip long acuminate and long fimbriate; well formed blades narrowly elliptic and acute at each end; secondary veins of blades arcuate, the outer half diffusing, and only indirectly connected to the teeth; upper petal 14 mm long; petals glabrous; capsule valves 10.5-13.5 mm long.

Holotype: Hawaiian Islands, Lanai Island, 1851-55, J. Remy 532 (L.).

Specimens Examined, all from Lanai: Kaiholena Valley, June 1913, C. N. Forbes 24.L.; June 1913, 197.L.; Mts., e. end, June 1912, 282.L.; upper part of mountain, Sept. 21, 1916, A. S. Hitchcock 14,651; Hauola Gulch, 2,000 ft alt., 30 Aug. 1979, S. L. Montgomery; Kaiholena, 3/17/14, G. C. Munro 111; Lanaihale, Munro; Lanai Hale and Haalelepakai, boggy ground, 3,200 ft alt., July 25, 1910, J. F. Rock 8,046 (holotype of V. Helena, var. lanaiensis Rock).

The Lanai plant still has the Kauai one as its closest relative, but it is concluded that they are distinct species. Both are shrubs with woody stems.

#### Literature Cited

- Becker, W., 1916. *Violae Asiaticae et Australienses* I. Bot. Centralbl., Beih. 34(2): 208-215.
- Forbes, Charles N., 1909. Some New Hawaiian Plants. Bishop Mus., Occas. Papers 4(3): 213-223, illustrated.
- Rock, Joseph F. 1911. Notes Upon Hawaiian Plants With Descriptions Of New Species And Varieties. College of Hawaii, Publ., Bull. 1: 1-20, illustrated.
- Skottsberg, C. 1940. Observations on Hawaiian Violets. Göteb. Bot. Träddg., Meddel. 13: 451-528, figs. 1-46.